

B-2190

G.T. Sadtler & Sons Furniture Store
345 North Charles Street
Private

1914

Summary

The G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists Building is significant for its Classical Revival facade, especially when studied as one of a pair with the neighboring facade, the John C. Knipp & Sons Furniture Store (B-2189), 343 N. Charles Street. The two facades, both designed by Joseph E. Sperry, are unique on Charles Street in their complementary design.

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. B-2190

Magi No. 0421905711

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists Store

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 345 North Charles Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Baltimore ☐ vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state Maryland county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name 345 North Charles Street Partnership - c/o Howard L. Chertkof & Company

street & number 19 W. Franklin Street telephone no.: 727-2330

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21202

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber CWM 4270

street & number Fayette and Calvert Streets folio 726

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Baltimore City Neighborhood Survey

date 1975 ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☒ local

depository for survey records Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

city, town Baltimore state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. B-2190

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary

The G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists Building is a three-story commercial building with a Classical Revival facade built in 1914 and located on the east side of North Charles Street south of the Mulberry Street intersection in central Baltimore, Maryland. The building is one of a row of commercial structures built at approximately the same time. It should be viewed as one of a pair with the John C. Knipp & Sons Furniture Store (B-2189) at 343 North Charles Street.

General Description

As with the Knipp Furniture Store (B-2189) adjoining the Sadtler Building on the south, the first floor store front has been altered. A photograph in Bygone Baltimore by Jacques Kelly (1984) shows the building in the mid to late 1920's with a center entrance, display windows and a half-dome canopy over the doorway. This arrangement was replaced prior to the early 1970's with a recessed plate glass wall with a reproduction Georgian style doorway with semi-circular pediment and central pineapple motif. The door itself has panels formed by molding strips. On the soffits of the marble frame of the former storefront are molding panels with rosettes. The doorway and soffit panels are painted light brown.

The second story is separated from the store front by a running molding which corresponds to the fretwork molding of 343 North Charles. The second story is dominated by a Palladian - derived arch and window design. The central windows are casements flanked by paired columns with simplified acanthus capitals. The smaller flanking windows have pilasters of the same order on their outside frames. Balustrades link the lower portions of the three window openings. The round arch over the center window has a recessed floral and wreath tympanum and a key console. Flanking the arch are carved floral panels.

The third story has three 6/6 windows with simply carved frames. The cornice above continues the cornice of 343 North Charles with a slight change of ornamental molding.

8. Significance

Survey No.

B-2190

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1914 Builder/Architect Joseph E. Sperry, architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SUMMARY

The G. T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists Building is significant for its Classical Revival facade, especially when studied as one of a pair with the neighboring facade, the John C. Knipp & Sons Furniture Store (B-2189), 343 North Charles. The two facades, both designed by Joseph E. Sperry, are unique on Charles Street in their complementary design.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Prior to 1914, the site was occupied by a four-story brick rowhouse. Probably built about 1820, the structure remained in the possession of the Freeman family until 1902, when it was purchased by William P. Harvey, a real estate broker. From 1905 to 1914, William Getz maintained a photography studio, and from 1912, his home in the building. There were other business tenants during this period, including John C. Knipp & Sons furniture dealers in 1906, whose address was later at 343 North Charles, and Charles H. Horner & Co., furniture in 1910 and 1911.

G.T. Sadtler & Sons had a store at 14-16 East Baltimore Street prior to 1914. Selling this property in 1914, Sadtler and Sons announced it would build a new Sadtler Building designed by Joseph E. Sperry at 345 North Charles Street. It was completed in the summer of 1914 by John Hiltz & Sons who also worked with Sperry at 343 North Charles. The firm occupied its new store in September.

As with the Knipp Furniture Store, the Sadtler Building appears to be a new construction on the site. Laurence H. Fowler, an architect with offices at 347 North Charles Street in the early 20th century, photographed a mantel in 345 North Charles prior to demolition. This photograph, now in a scrapbook in the Baltimore Museum of Art, bears the caption, "now in Dr. Howlands Oak Place".

Sadtler & Sons remained in the building only until 1922 and sold the premises in 1925. A variety of tenants and owners occupied the building from the mid-1920's through the mid-1950's including Sacks tailors, Lane

(continue, please)

Bryant women's clothing, Remington Rand office supplies, and, from about 1956, by Louis Mazor furniture. Mazor remained until 1971 when Alex Cooper auctioneers bought the building. Cooper sold to the present law firm partnership which owns the building in 1982.

BALTIMORE METROCENTER SURVEY

SURVEY NO.: B-2190

AREA: Cathedral Hill

MAGI NO.: 0421905711

Address: 345 North Charles Street
Current Name:

Block: 581 Lot: 11

Lot size: approx. 25ft. X 136ft.

Height: 3

Materials: Marble

Condition: Excellent

Owner: 345 North Charles St. P'ship

Use: Commercial

Accessible: Yes, unrestricted

Designation:

Liber/Folio: CWM 4720/726



Historic Name: G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists

Date: 1914

Architect/Builder: Joseph E. Sperry, arch.

Style (if appropriate): Classical Revival

Description:

The 3-story marble facade has been altered on the first story with a recessed plate glass wall and Georgian-style entrance. Above a running molding, the second floor has a Palladian-inspired window group with a recessed tympanum under the central arch. Paired columns with acanthus capitals separates the casement windows. Balustrades link the three window openings. The tympanum has a floral and wreath design. Flanking the arch are carved floral panels. The third story has three bays with 6/6 windows in simple carved frames. The cornice repeats the design of 343 North Charles with small changes in ornamental moldings.

Significance:

Area: Architecture

Level: Local

The G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists Building is significant for its Classical Revival facade, especially when studied as a pair with the neighboring facade, the John C. Knipp & Sons Furniture Store (B-2189) at 343 North Charles Street. The two facades, both designed by Joseph E. Sperry, are unique on Charles Street in their complementary design.

See Maryland Historical Trust Inventory form.

Sources: Land Records, City directories, DR 2-21-14, 5-9-14
Surveyor and Date: Janet L. Davis, January 1985

Baltimore Metrocenter Survey
Cathedral Hill Area
G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists
345 North Charles Street
B-2190



G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists
345 North Charles Street B-2190
Cathedral Hill - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
Date: August 1984
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
West elevation
1/2



G.T. Sadtler & Sons Optemetrists
345 North Charles Street B-2190
Cathedral Hill - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
Date: August 1984
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
General view with Knipp Bldg. B-2189
2/2

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

B-2190
MAG#0421905711

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Alex Cooper, Auctioneers				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 345 North Charles Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore,				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY:		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Alex Cooper, Auctioneers Inc.				
STREET AND NUMBER: 345 N. Charles Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland		21201
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Land Records Office Room 601 Baltimore City Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: St. Paul and Fayette				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland		21201
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): RHB2784-106				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: November 1975 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Commission for Historic and Architectural Preservation				
STREET AND NUMBER: Room 900 26 South Calvert Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland		21202

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This attached brick building which is located second from the corner of East Mulberry and North Charles Streets is three stories high, has a flat roof and has had an impressive classical facade made of marble added to the building. The first story is a storefront with a rectangular shaped door to the left with a wooden broken pediment over it. There is one large plate glass display window. The second floor has a massive palladian looking unit; the central part has french doors which lead out to a balcony. Between the second and third stories on the right or left are decorative scrooly looking marble blocks. The third floor consists of three bays of three over four panes windows. The windows are encased in marble with marble sills. The cornice is also constructed of marble and has a low wall above it. The building is the same proportion as the buildings adjacent to it.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

25-1 x 137

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Nancy Krieger, Margaret Mack, Lee Wallace		
ORGANIZATION Goucher College	DATE 11/15/75	
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Towson	STATE Maryland	21204

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

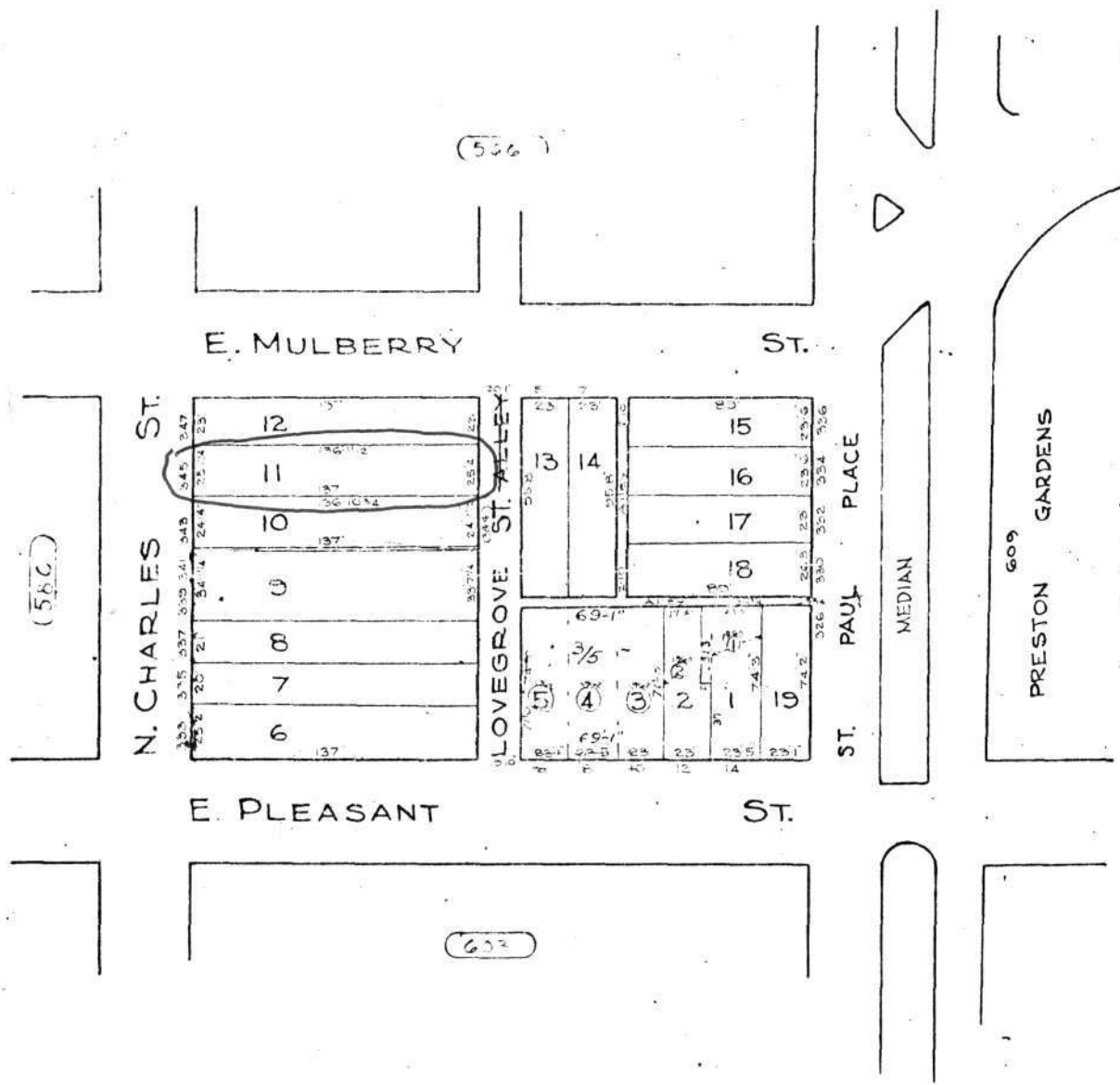
Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

margaret m. mack
Signature

REVISIONS
 Level 1+2 North 1st Edition App. C. 8/1/201
 Notes 3.A+5.C+6.A+7.A+8.A+9.A+10.A+11.A+12.A

B-2190



(580)

(536)

(632)

565

583

605

NOTICE
 THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED
 FOR IN THE REAL PROPERTY ACT OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 BUREAU OF PLANS & SURVEYS
 PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

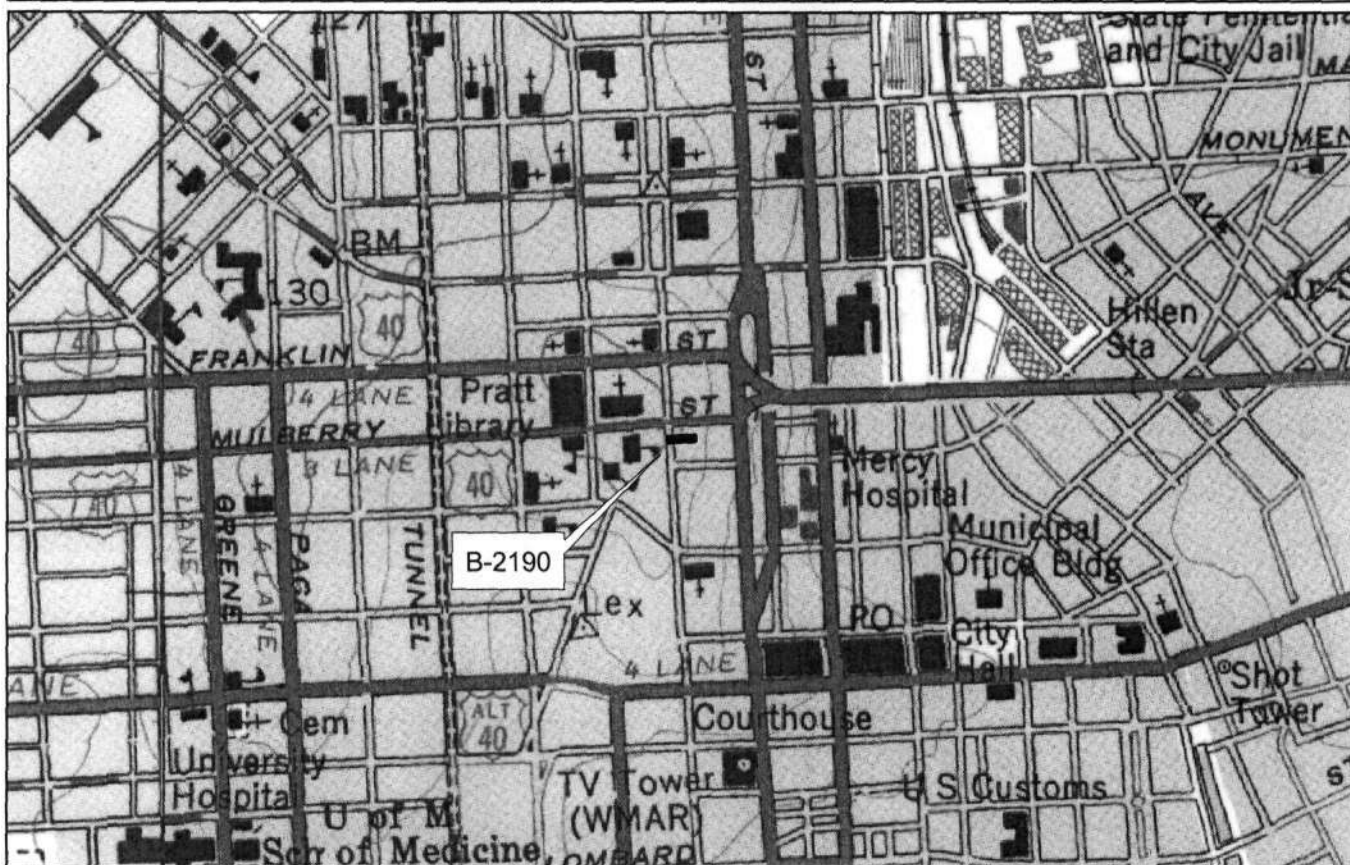
CITY OF BALTIMORE
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 BUREAU OF PLANS & SURVEYS
 PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION
 WARD 4 SECTION 1
 BLOCK 581
 SCALE 1" = 100'

Ward 4, Section 1

Block 581

Sheet 1 of 1

Alex Cooper, Auctioneers (G. T. Sadtler & Sons Optometrists Building, G. T. Sadtler & Sons Furniture Store)
345 N. Charles Street
Block 0581 Lot 010
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad





B-2190

Belk 581
345 N. Charles